



**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
*Town of Belmont*  
*Homer Municipal Building*  
*19 Moore Street*  
*Belmont, Massachusetts 02478-0900*  
**Telephone: (617) 993-2650      Fax: (617) 993-2651**

Date: February 20, 2014  
To: All Rock Meadow Community Gardeners  
From: Mary Trudeau, Agent for the Belmont Conservation Commission & Rock Meadow Garden Administrator

**Welcome, Gardeners!**

It is hard to imagine, but the snow will melt and the opening of the Gardens will occur! Registration/Rental forms are attached to this email, and are due back by **MARCH 31, 2014 for returning gardeners ONLY**. Prospective gardeners on the waiting list will be notified after March 31 as space becomes available. Do not fill out a registration form if you have not been assigned a garden.

If you are a returning gardener and would like to switch plots, please clearly note this on your registration form or contact me at [mtrudeau@belmont-ma.gov](mailto:mtrudeau@belmont-ma.gov).

Rentals are through the Belmont Conservation Commission. The fee for the garden rental this summer has been set at \$65.00 dollars. Checks shall be payable to the Town of Belmont and mailed or hand delivered to:

Mary Trudeau, Conservation Commission, 19 Moore Street, Belmont, MA 02478.

As in years past, Kathy Martin ([kjmartin620@gmail.com](mailto:kjmartin620@gmail.com)) is serving as the Garden Coordinator and will coordinate the day to day operations of the gardens as well as supervising the mandatory Spring Work Day on April 12, 2014. (see below for more on this activity!)

**How are garden plots allocated?**

- If you are a returning gardener, you can reserve your existing rental plot by sending in the registration form and annual dues by **March 31, 2014 AND** attending the work day on April 12, 2014. The work day is NOT optional!
- Returning gardeners who wish to change plots are granted first choice of the available plots; this is done at the work day, according to the order in which the requests were received.
- If you are a prospective gardener, you will be contacted and asked to attend the work day and will assigned a plot from the open plots at the end of the work day. Prospective gardeners are assigned gardens according to the order in which requests were received for the Wait List.

## **Registration, Rental Fees, and Spring Work Day**

**Rental Fees for a garden plot will be \$65.00 dollars this year.** The Gardens are a self funded entity. Fees will continue to provide water, compost and an occasional load of wood chips for the gardens. The fees are, also, used to pay for mowing and path clearing; parking lot maintenance; and trash disposal once or twice a year by an outside contractor. There are communal lawn mowers, weed whackers and wheel barrows available, and again this year, we will also be providing organic pest and disease control products to interested gardeners.

Please complete the attached Registration Form, and return to me with a check for \$65.00 dollars to cover your rental fee. **Registration form and fee must be received by March 31, 2014 OR your plot WILL be rented to another gardener.** The Registration form now allows gardeners to make additional donations of support for the garden, and if you are able, this gesture will help off-set fees for those less fortunate. All questions about registration should be directed to: Mary Trudeau, Conservation Commission Administrator at (617)993-2667. **In any case, the deadline for Registration is March 31, 2014.**

### **April 12, 2014 (Saturday) Spring Work Day and Allocating of Plots**

All returning gardeners are expected to be at the gardens on April 12, 2014 for the annual Spring Work Day and Allocating of Plots. Bruce Westgate and Kathy Martin will be managing the work party, and every able gardener is expected to participate. The Work Day will start at 9:00 am, and garden assignments will be made around noon. Garden assignments will only be made to pre notified applicants...if you are on the waiting list and have not been contacted **and** asked to attend the work day, it is unlikely that you will be assigned a garden this year. Please do not attend the work day and expect an assignment as gardens are allotted by rank on the wait list, not presence at the work day.

### **What happens on the Work Day?**

The spring work day is important. It is currently the only time the gardeners work together to do much needed maintenance on the paths and common areas associated with the gardens. What you can expect to be doing includes removing trash and debris from the gardens and depositing these materials in a dumpster; reestablishing communal walking paths through the garden; digging and pulling out, and cutting back invasive plants such as Bittersweet vines, Black Swallowwort vines, and Buckthorn bushes that are threatening the gardens. Compost processing is been an ongoing project, and will require some volunteerism on the work day, as well. **Wear work clothes and bring garden gloves.** We will provide some tools, but it is helpful if you bring your own clippers, loppers or shovels. (You might want to label these with your name.)

We also want the work day to be fun and social! Think about bringing a bag of bagels, a box of donuts or a carton of coffee and taking the opportunity to meet and greet old and new faces. Photos of the day are always welcome, and will be used on the Facebook page and websites for the garden!

***The work day will happen rain or shine and is unlikely to be rescheduled. Please assume that attendance is a pre requisite for being assigned a garden!***



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## REGISTRATION FOR GARDEN SPACE

AT ROCK MEADOW COMMUNITY GARDENS, BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
2014 Growing Season

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a returning gardener \_\_\_\_\_ I want a new garden assigned to me \_\_\_\_\_

The 2014 Garden Rental Fee is \$65.00 dollars\*\*. If you would like to help fund the gardens, and assist those who are unable to afford the annual fee, we are offering the following levels of support:

Garden Rental 2011 Season:	\$65.00 dollars
Garden Friend	\$75.00 dollars
Garden Benefactor	\$85.00 dollars
Garden Patron	\$100.00 dollars

\*\* If you have any questions, please contact Mary Trudeau at (617)993-2667 or [mtrudeau@belmont-ma.gov](mailto:mtrudeau@belmont-ma.gov). Fees include water service, compost products, wood chips and twice annual trash disposal.

Please mail this completed form AND your check payable to: **TOWN OF BELMONT:**

Mary Trudeau  
Conservation Commission  
19 Moore Street – Homer Building  
Belmont, MA 02478

**Please Note: Payment and Registration are due by March 31, 2014 !!!!**  
**If you do not submit a registration form by this date, your garden WILL be reassigned.**